



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/B.44-45/11
26 July 2025

Adaptation Fund Board

**REQUEST FOR NO COST EXTENSION OF PROJECT
COMPLETION DATE:
UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
(PARAGUAY)**

Background

1. The Adaptation Fund Board (the Board) at its twenty-ninth meeting, approved a five-year project titled “Ecosystem Based Approaches for Reducing the Vulnerability of Food Security to the Impacts of Climate Change in the Chaco region of Paraguay” submitted by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for a total amount of US\$ 7,128,450 (Decision B.29/19).
2. The overall objective of the project is to reduce the vulnerability of the population (selected family agriculture producers and indigenous communities) of the Chaco Region of Paraguay to the impacts of climate change on food security. This will be achieved through the following components: (i) Knowledge management on vulnerability and resilience to climate change improved with tools and instruments to implement cost-effective adaptation measures; (ii) Adaptive capacity in rural areas of greatest vulnerability strengthened through concrete adaptation measures favoring an ecosystem-based approach; and (iii) Capacity development and awareness to implement and upscale effective implementation of adaptation measures at national and local levels.
3. As mandated by the decision, an agreement was prepared and signed between the Board and UNEP in June 2017 and the project started implementation on 11 April 2019.
4. As of 16 June 2025, five PPRs were cleared by the secretariat and a total project funding for an amount of US\$ 7,128,450 including the project fees has been disbursed by the trustee, which corresponds to 100% of the approved grant.
5. In August 2022, UNEP submitted a first request for a COVID-related twelve-months no-cost extension of the project completion date from 11 April 2024 to 10 April 2025, which the secretariat cleared in accordance with Decision B.35.b/16.
6. In February 2025, UNEP informed the secretariat of its intention to submit a second request for a no cost extension of the project completion timeline from 10 April 2025 to 30 March 2027. Such a request was submitted on 9 June 2025 (see annex 1). The request is based on several factors including (i) challenges faced by the original Executing Entity (the Secretariat of the Environment, or “SEAM”) from 2017 to 2021, which ultimately decided in mid-2021 to relinquish its role as the Executing Entity; (ii) subsequent comparative assessment to select a new Executing Entity for the project (Investigación para el Desarrollo, or “ID”) which was approved by the Board in September 2024 through Decision B.42-43/20; and (iii) prolonged impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, which delayed implementation.

Secretariat’s review of the request

7. Following a review of the request by the secretariat and considering the explanation provided by UNEP, the secretariat is of the view that this twenty-four-month extension request is justified. As evidenced by the memo provided by UNEP (Annex 1), it is noted that this request should allow sufficient time to deliver all remaining activities. Finally, the secretariat acknowledges that the Designated Authority has been notified, in accordance with the amended Policy for Project/Programme Delays, as specified in Annex 1.

Recommendation

8. The Board may consider and decide to approve the request for a twenty-four-month no-cost extension of the project completion date from 10 April 2025 to 30 March 2027, for the project

“Ecosystem Based Approaches for Reducing the Vulnerability of Food Security to the Impacts of Climate Change in the Chaco region of Paraguay” as requested by UNEP.

Annex

1. Request for an extension of the project completion date from UNEP.

Annex 1: Request for an extension of the project completion date from UNEP**E. REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF CONCRETE ADAPTATION PROJECT/PROGRAMME***Request for no-cost extension of project/programme completion date*

Implementing Entity Name: UNEP			
AF Project/programme ID: 044MPYFR			
Project/programme Title: Ecosystem-based Approaches for Reducing the Vulnerability of Food Security to the Impacts of Climate Change in the Chaco Region of Paraguay			
Country/ies: Paraguay			
Project/Programme Approval (date)			
Expected Project/programme Completion (date)	10 April 2025	Proposed Revised Completion (date):	30 March 2027

Reasons/justifications for the no-cost extension of project/programme completion

Several circumstances delayed project implementation, including execution difficulties by the Secretariat of the Environment ("SEAM"), now Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development ("MADES") from 2017-2021; the suspension of the project at MADES' request in 2021 for 6 months; followed by a change process for the EE role from 2022 to 2024.

In 2020, restrictive measures were established in the country due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which further delayed implementation.

Implementing Entity certification

This request has been prepared in accordance with Adaptation Fund policies and procedures, has been agreed by participating executing entities, and the designated authority/ies (DA) has/have been notified.	
 Name & Signature Mirey Atallah, Chief, Adaptation and Resilience Branch, Climate Change Division, UNEP Project/programme contact person	
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